

**Meeting of the
Transportation Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
January 13, 2016 at 10:00 am**

WestCOG Stamford Office, 888 Washington Blvd, 3rd Floor, Stamford, CT, 06901

Agenda

- 1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. FEATURED GUEST**
CTDOT Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) – Presentation by Mr. Hugh Hayward, PE, Principal Engineer & William Grant, PE, Project Manager, CTDOT
- 3. LOTICIP & STP-B PROGRAMS**
- 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- 5. ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Approval of October 6, 2015 Minutes Attachment 5-a, pp 1-2
 - b. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Attachment 5-b, pp 3-5
- 6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Funding Opportunities:

 - a. FTA 5310 Program Attachment 6-a, pg 6
 - b. CTDOT Community Connectivity Program Attachment 6-b, pg 7
 - c. OPM Responsible Growth & TOD Grant Program Attachment 6-c, pg 8

Other

 - d. SWRMPO Meeting Format
 - e. Operating Procedures
- 7. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

1/21/16 – WestCOG & SWRMPO, Ridgefield Library
2/2/16 – TTAG, Darien Town Hall (if needed)
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

For language assistance or other accommodations, contact Western Connecticut Council of Governments at least five business days prior to the meeting at help@westernctcog.org. Para asistencia con el idioma y otras adaptaciones, por favor póngase en contacto con Western Connecticut Consejo de Gobiernos por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión al help@westernctcog.org

**South Western Region
Transportation Technical Advisory Group
October 6, 2015
Draft Meeting Minutes**

TTAG:	<i>Mr. Frank Petise (for Mr. James Michel), Greenwich; Mr. Michael Yeosock, Norwalk; Mr. Mani Poola, Stamford; Mr. Pete Ratkiewich, Westport; Mr. Robert Nerney, Wilton; Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Westport Transit District;</i>
WestCOG:	<i>Ms. Sue Prosi; Mr. Rob Sachnin;</i>
Other:	<i>Roxane Fromson, CTDOT.</i>

Participating via phone

Ms. Sue Prosi called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The place of meeting was the WestCOG Stamford Office, 888 Washington Avenue, Stamford, CT 06901.

1. TTAG Meeting Minutes – June 30, 2015*

The meeting minutes were approved as revised following a motion by Mr. Mani Poola and a second by Mr. Michael Yeosock. The motion carried with one abstention from Mr. Frank Petise, who was not at the June TTAG meeting.

2. Public Involvement

There were no members of the public present.

3. Transportation Improvement Program: FFY 2015-2018*

Ms. Prosi introduced the proposed TIP amendment, which seeks to move the project construction year from federal fiscal year (FFY) 2016 to 2017. She explained the project will rehabilitate the bridge (#37) along Route 1 where it crosses I-95 at Exit 9. CTDOT will expedite construction by using the “Accelerated Bridge Construction” technique which will result in closing Route 1 for only one weekend.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPA-BRX	0135-0325	X6	US 1	STAMFORD	REHAB BR 00037 OVER I-95	CON	2017	17,000	13,600	3,400	0	MOVE FROM FFY '16 TO FFY '17 AND INCREASE FROM ESTIMATE FED. \$7.2M

AQC X6 = exempt

Mr. Poola advised that Stamford’s Mayor, David Martin, would like the Route 1 bridge to accommodate the future widening of I-95 which is included in the Lets GO CT Plan. The City of Stamford does not want to invest in a \$17 million dollar improvement that will have to be replaced when I-95 is widened. The objective is to maximize the efficient use of transportation funding and to reduce construction related impacts and disruptions to the area. CTDOT staff has informed Mr. Poola that there is no plan to widen I-95. Currently this is not reflected in the project designs. Additional conversations ensued regarding the total cost of the proposed widening and the history of previous interest in such measures between exits 8 and 10.

The TTAG agreed that more information from CTDOT was needed regarding the timing of proposed I-95 widening relative to the life expectancy of the proposed bridge project and the future widening of I-95. WestCOG will transmit this request to CTDOT with input from Stamford. With respect to the SWRMPO time line, the TTAG agreed that the requested information and CTDOT's consultation with Stamford will determine if the TIP project amendment will be on the SWRMPO's October 22, 2015 agenda. To ensure that the meeting packet is sent to the SWRMPO in a timely manner, the information and consultation should be completed by October 12th or the TIP amendment may be deferred to the SWRMPO's November meeting.

4. Information Items

a. Upcoming Meetings

10/22/15 12:30 p.m. WestCOG – Stamford Government Center

10/22/15 1:30 p.m. South Western Region MPO – Stamford Government Center

11/3/15 10:00 a.m. TTAG (*if needed*)

b. Other

Ms. Prosi advised that a new election of South Western Region MPO and WestCOG officers will take place in December.

5. Adjournment

The TTAG meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

TTAG Action Requested: review and recommend MPO endorsement of TIP amendment using Resolution #2016-001

Background: The FFY2015-2018 South Western Region TIP was endorsed by the MPO on October 23, 2014. The TIP was incorporated into the larger Statewide TIP, which was approved by USDOT and EPA on January 21, 2015.

Amendments (SWRTIP #A2016-001):

173-472: Sign Updates on Route 15, Exits 27-53

This is a new project that would update all signs along Route 15 (Merritt Parkway) between exits 27 and 53, which includes the SWR towns of Greenwich, Stamford, New Canaan, Norwalk, and Westport. CTDOT staff have identified the sign sheeting to be in need of replacement and identified this corridor as a priority. Adequate signage helps to improve safety and increase wayfinding for area drivers. Legend items will remain unchanged, as this project seeks to address structural deficiencies with the signs.

Funding for this project is provided as part of the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and is 100% federally funded. NHPP projects support improvements to infrastructure condition, safety, mobility, and freight movement on National Highway Systems (NHS), which includes the Merritt Parkway.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
73	NHPP	0173-0472	X6	CT 15	VARIOUS	SIGN UPDATES ON ROUTE 15, EXITS 27-53	CON	2017	3,500	3,500	0	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

Attachments: Resolution #2016-001 FFY2015-2018 TIP Endorsement

SOUTH WESTERN REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DARIEN • GREENWICH • NEW CANAAN • NORWALK • STAMFORD • WESTON • WESTPORT • WILTON
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD • STAMFORD, CT 06901 • (203) 316-5190 • FAX (203) 316-4995

RESOLUTION #2016-001

Resolution to Endorse the South Western Region FY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program

WHEREAS: Present federal regulations governing federal transportation assistance in urban areas prescribe that a Transportation Improvement Program be structured for each urban area which realistically balances need and financial resources over a four year period; and

WHEREAS: The *South Western Region FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* has been reviewed by the transportation technical and policy boards as well as the public.

WHEREAS: The projects are consistent with the *South Western Region Long Range Transportation Plan 2015-2040*, and are financially constrained.

WHEREAS: The projects meet the conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act

- *Connecticut Department of Transportation Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination; of the 2015 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Programs for the Connecticut Portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Ozone Nonattainment Area and the Greater Connecticut Ozone Nonattainment Area, March 2015, and*
- *Connecticut Department of Transportation PM 2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination; of the 2015 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Programs for the Connecticut Portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT area PM_{2.5} Attainment/Maintenance Area, March 2015.*

WHEREAS: The TIP is based on a continuing, comprehensive transportation process carried on cooperatively by the State, MPO, and transit operators in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49) U.S.C. app. 1607.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby:

Endorses the *South Western Region FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*.

This resolution is effective January 21, 2016.

Date: January 21, 2016.

Jayne Stevenson, Chairman

**Federal Transit Administration
Section 5310 FFY 2015 Application Announcement
Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities**

The Section 5310 application for the FFY 2015 funding cycle is now available on the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) website. It has been formatted with fillable forms and may be submitted electronically to: Ellen.Lawrence@ct.gov To access the application, go to www.ct.gov/dot/5310.

- Section 5310 is intended to enhance mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The new program, as amended by MAP-21, authorizes federal grants for the activities previously authorized under two separate grant programs: Section 5310, formula grants for the special needs of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities; and Section 5317, New Freedom program.
- Eligible recipients of this competitive program include:
 - A private non-profit organization
 - A State or local governmental authority that:
 - Is approved by the State to coordinate services for seniors and persons with disabilities.
 - Certifies that there are no non-profit organizations readily available in the area to provide the service.
 - An operator of public transportation that receives a Section 5310 grant indirectly through a recipient
 - i. Taxi companies may participate in the Section 5310 program as contractors.
- There are three (3) separate applications; one for those interested in applying for Section 5310 A funding, one for Section 5310 B, C & D Capital funding and one for Section 5310 B, C & D Operating funding. Applicants need to complete the application relevant to the project category for which they are applying.
- There is also an Application Instructions packet, for review only. It contains updated program information, instructions on how to complete the application for FFY 2015 and documentation for awarded applicants. The instructions packet should be read thoroughly and should **NOT** be submitted with the application.
- The Federal share of eligible capital costs shall be in an amount equal to 80 percent of the cost. The Federal share of the eligible operating costs may not exceed 50 percent of the subsidy.
- Section 5310 A applicants must place a public notice in a major newspaper with the greatest appropriate readership in the proposed service area by **Friday, April 15, 2016**.
- The useful life requirement for replacement vehicles is now 4 years or 100,000 miles for both vans and buses; 5 years or 150,000 miles for vehicles with a capacity of 20 passengers or more.
- Applicants submitting applications via e-mail, mail or in person must submit one original to CTDOT and one copy to the appropriate Regional Planning Organization (RPO). See Appendix J in the Application Instructions packet for a listing of RPOs. All applicants must include any and all supporting documentation. Applications must be submitted no later than **4:00PM on Friday, April 29, 2016**. CTDOT and the RPOs will not review late applications.
- The FFY 2015 application shall be the only application accepted and reviewed by the RPO and CTDOT. Please contact Ellen Lawrence at (860) 594-2912 for questions on Section 5310 A or Aimee Marques at (860) 594-2840 for questions on Section 5310 B, C & D. Section 5310 A applicants will be notified of CTDOT selection for FTA grant award in writing by **Thursday, June 30, 2016**. Section B, C & D applicants will be notified upon FTA approval, estimated to occur in the Fall of 2016.

January 6, 2015

TO: Transportation TAG Members
FROM: Rob Sachnin, Senior Planner
RE: Community Connectivity Grant Program

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) has released a solicitation for the Community Connectivity Program. The program seeks to improve accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians (bike/ped) in community centers. Safety improvements and accident reduction are also important facets of the program.

This is a discretionary funding opportunity where successful applicants will receive consultant assistance in conducting road safety audits (RSAs) for important bike/ped corridors and intersections. RSAs will identify safety issues and appropriate countermeasures. A draft report summarizing results will also be prepared at no cost. The scope of funding for this program is limited to the RSA, *there is no money allocated for construction at this time*, although this could change in the future.

Eligible Applicants: Municipalities (all state and local roads)

Deadline: March 1, 2016

Key Project Components - may include, but are not limited to:

- Bike/ped access & accommodations, including connections to:
 - Commercial/retail
 - Employment
 - Educational facilities
 - Transit (bus, rail, park & ride lots, etc)
 - Other existing bike/ped trails
- Safety improvements & accident reductions
- Building off of other transportation or economic development project efforts (past, current, or future projects), such as:
 - Transit oriented development (TOD)
 - Economic development
 - Housing
 - Other

Attachments:

- Location map (**required**)
- Optional: Collision data, Traffic data (ADT or VMT), Bike/ped data

Additional Information (application and brochure): <https://westcog.org/business-grant-opportunities>

Contact: Mr. Patrick Zapatka, Program Manager, CTDOT, Patrick.Zapatka@ct.gov, 860-594-2047

January 6, 2016

TO: Transportation TAG Members
FROM: Rob Sachnin, Senior Planner
RE: Responsible Growth & Transit-Oriented Development Grant Program

The CT Office of Policy & Management (OPM) has announced a Request for Applications (RFA) for the Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program.

Eligible Applicants: Municipalities and Councils of Governments (COGs)

Funding: \$25,000 (min) to \$2,000,000 (max)

Eligible Projects:

- Transit-oriented development
- Infill development
- Reuse and rehabilitation
- Municipal infrastructure
- Workforce housing
- Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Agriculture
- Community resiliency (to extreme weather events)
- Regional collaboration
- Projects identified in a CEDS
- Any other project that supports the state Plan of C&D

Deadlines:

- Written Questions: Thursday, *December 24, 2015* at 4:00 pm
- Resolutions & Letters of Support: Thursday, *January 28, 2016* at 4:00 pm
- Application: Thursday, *February 4, 2016* at 4:00 pm

Link to RFA: <http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/secretary/rfp/opm-igp-20151209-rg-tod.pdf>

- Section B: additional eligible project details
- Application Instructions: Sections F and H
- Screening & Rating Criteria: Attachment A

Questions about the RFA may be submitted in writing to the Official State Contact, Matthew Pafford, at either Matthew.Pafford@ct.gov or Office of Policy and Management, 450 Capitol Avenue MS# 54ORG, Hartford, CT 06106-1379.